



PETE YEE

GIMME FIFTEEN Jocelyn Blair and Samantha Wojtkiw go for the big block against the UBC T-Birds this weekend as Tiffany Proudfoot gets ready midcourt. The Pandas lost both games in four sets.

Pandas can't keep up with T-Birds at the net

Alberta power offence not enough to beat strong UBC blocking

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

The Pandas volleyball team, fourth in Canada West, has a winning record over most of the teams in the conference, but this weekend, they weren't able to win more than two sets against the second-place UBC Thunderbirds (15-1). Alberta (11-5) lost 3-1 to UBC on both Friday and Saturday night.

The weekend's losses made clear that the Pandas still have a ways to go if they want to be serious contenders when playoffs come around in the middle of February.

"It was really challenging and disappointing, obviously," Pandas head coach Laurie Eisler said. "We're not where we want to be or where we need to be yet, but the positives are that when you play a team that's that good, and played that well, it really exposes what you need to do."

It was the T-Birds defence that undid the Pandas on the weekend. UBC put up 28 blocks and 64 defensive digs on Friday, and 18 blocks and 53 digs on Saturday night. It proved too much for Alberta's usually dangerous offence, and that led to mental lapses on the Pandas side.

"I think we ended a lot of rallies with just bad decision-making and made a mistake instead of keeping the rally alive and forcing them to beat us," Eisler said. "The biggest thing was we're just not scoring points off our serve game."

The Pandas still have several weekends ahead

of them before Canada West playoffs, though, and Eisler is confident that her team will be ready when the time comes.

"There were lots of positives. Some of that volleyball was brilliant," she said.

"Time is still our friend. As long as we can stay positive and stick with it and really work on those things that are hurting us right now and try to make things better, then we have a fighting chance."

The T-Birds also felt that the weekend's matches were a good way to evaluate how they stack up in Canada West, though for them, the prognosis was obviously more positive.

"We always repeat that it's a team that's not going to give up or go away even if you get up on them," UBC coach Doug Reimer said. "For both teams, it's been a while since they played one of the top teams in the league—not playing matches that they're 'supposed' to win, but matches where you're not exactly sure what's going to happen."

The T-Birds have an even tougher schedule coming up than the Pandas. Next weekend they take on the third-place Dinos (14-2) in Calgary, and the weekend after that they'll face fifth-place Trinity Western (10-6).

"It's good to know that we are up to the challenge," UBC left side Liz Cordonier said. "You come up against teams like Alberta that have so much skill, and it's good to know that you're out there to fight as well."

U of A swimmers advance by laps and bounds to bronze

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

Though the UBC Thunderbirds have long been the team to beat in Canada West swimming, this weekend's Canada West championship meet in Edmonton showed that the tides may be changing. The T-Birds got some serious competition from both the Calgary Dinos and the Bears and Pandas, losing to the Dinos in both the men's and women's standings and fighting the Bears for second place.

This weekend, the Alberta men kept close behind the T-Birds, finishing with 509 points compared to UBC's 588, though far behind the 945 team points Calgary posted. U of A's women weren't quite as close to second place, trailing UBC's 702 team points with only 414, but both Alberta teams earned a handful of medal finishes and several more swimmers qualified for nationals.

"We made some big improvements over last year, and that's a good start," U of A head coach Bill Humby said.

The strong finishes from Alberta's athletes are a good sign for the Bears and Pandas, who have struggled in recent years trying to keep up to UBC and Calgary. UBC has won nine of the past ten Canada West women's titles and eight of the past ten men's titles, and the T-Birds are ten-time defending national champions in both men's and women's swimming.

The Pandas especially have shown improvement against those powerhouses, moving up two places from fifth at last year's Canada West meet.

"It was probably the best [conference finals] I've seen for our team since I've been here," fifth-year Bear Mike Vanden Ham said. "We've never



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

LOOK MA, ONE HAND The Bears and Pandas hosted the Canada West championships this weekend, and both teams impressed with third-place overall finishes.

been this close to second place on the men's side, and the women have come a long way too, to come back to third—and a strong third, not just a barely-third."

Vanden Ham thinks this weekend's positive results are an indication of possible change in the Canada West swimming landscape, and predicts further success for the U of A.

"It shows a bit of shift; UBC's sort of falling off their dominant path, with

Calgary overtaking them by a lot and us being able to nip at their heels," he said. "It was really exciting for me to see that our program's coming along and that we're moving forward finally."

While the biggest individual names at the meet, like Olympic hopefuls Callum Ng and Annamay Pierse, were from UBC, Alberta now has 19 swimmers—five more than last year—qualified for nationals, and several Alberta swimmers stood out for

Humby on the weekend. In addition to the number of medals earned by Alberta swimmers, there were some more personal victories. Humby was particularly proud of Carly Perreux, who posted a qualifying time during Sunday's 200m breaststroke final.

"Carly had struggled for the last little while, starting last year a little bit, so I was really proud of her for the perseverance she showed," Humby said. "There was a point, in November,

when she was sort of in the black hole. She was in a new training program, she was lifting weights, she was really sore, she was really tired, and she was swimming really slow.

"But she didn't give up; she just fought back all the way, and every race since December, she's just gotten faster and faster and faster."

The Pandas and Bears who have qualified for nationals will travel to UBC at the end of February to compete.



THE STANLEY PUCK Dylan Stanley scored on Friday against Regina, and the winning goal against Calgary on Sunday.

Bears win games, lose captain

Alberta men’s hockey team emerge from gruelling three-game weekend in first place with six more points, but without Canada West’s top defenceman

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

Though the Bears hockey team went undefeated this weekend, one important loss on Saturday night could end up much bigger than the wins. Alberta not only defeated the Regina Cougars on Friday and Saturday, and the Calgary Dinos (10-7-4) in a make-up game on Sunday night, but lost Harlan Anderson, the best defenceman in the country, to a knee injury on Saturday night.

Alberta (18-3-2) played two strong games against Regina (8-11-3), notching a 4-2 win on Friday night and much tighter 3-2 shootout victory on Saturday.

With barely a minute left to go in the third period on Saturday, fifth-year defenceman Anderson was injured in an seemingly-innocent scramble for the puck by the boards. The team captain had to be helped off the ice with a dislocated right kneecap.

Anderson, who leads Canada West defencemen in points and is fourth overall in Canada West in points and goals, will be out of the lineup indefinitely.

That night, the Bears were facing a 2-0 deficit at the end of the first, but a goal from Jesse Gimblett in the second period and another from Derek Ryan in the third evened out the score. The two teams battled it out through overtime, but Ryan, a first-year forward, scored the deciding point in the shootout.

“[Regina is] a tough team to play against,” Bears head coach Eric Thurston said. “They play a very stingy, life-sucking hockey and capitalize on

your mistakes. “When a team like that is able to score first, and even get a couple, they can really be stifling.”

It was a marked change from the previous evening, when the Bears were consistently up by at least two goals and forced Alberta to concentrate on their offence.

“There’s a possibility that we could play these guys in the playoffs and in our rink, so we wanted to send a message that we don’t lose in the Clare Drake, and I think we accomplished that.”

DYLAN STANLEY
BEARS CENTRE

“After the first period, we just focused on winning each period,” Ryan said. “We did that in the second period; we came back 2-1, and we had the same outlook going into the third.”

However, the most significant issue coming out of the game wasn’t Alberta proving they have the ability to come back for a win, but how the Bears will be able to manage without Anderson as a leader on the ice.

“Other guys will have to step up, but you just don’t replace Harlan,” Thurston said. “He’s been probably one of the best players in the country, not just on our team, and you don’t have a lot of

defencemen with that much offence. It’s not going to be easy.”

The Bears had their first chance to see how they played without their captain on Sunday night, when they took on the Dinos, a team that swept Alberta last weekend in Calgary. The Bears were able to reassert their dominance, however, by beating them 5-3 on Sunday.

“Redemption was probably the key for us,” Bears centre Dylan Stanley said. “There’s a possibility that we could play these guys in the playoffs and in our rink, so we wanted to send a message that we don’t lose in the Clare Drake, and I think we accomplished that.”

Key to the Bears’ win was their penalty-killing abilities. Though Alberta players were given ten penalties throughout the game—double those incurred by the Dinos—they allowed only one power-play goal. They also managed to kill a pair of two-man advantages for Calgary.

“Our penalty-killing was great. It’s something we’ve been trying to work on all year,” Stanley said. “Usually our power-play’s our strong play, but I think tonight the [penalty kill] really won us the game.”

While playing without Anderson was hardly easy for Alberta, they’re trying to fill that hole as well as they can on his behalf.

“He’s the core of our team—he’s the guy that everybody looks to, and he’s had a career year. He’s been an all-star for us. But at the same time, we want to win for him,” Stanley said. “He’s been there for us all year, and it’s our turn to win for him.”

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Mustang suspended for doping

RAVIAMARNATH
The Gazette (Western Ontario)

LONDON, ON (CUP)—In a statement issued last Thursday, CIS officials announced that University of Western Ontario receiver Matt Baxter has been suspended for two years for violating the organization's doping regulations.

Baxter, who was completing his third year of CIS eligibility with the Mustangs, tested positive for letrozole metabolite, an organic compound used to break down letrozole, a non-steroidal drug that has been shown to raise testosterone levels. The test took place on 30 August in an unannounced, out-of-competition test conducted by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport.

The CCES conducts random drug tests on CIS athletes on an annual basis. The number of athletes tested each year is contingent on the organization's budget.

"Using any substance on the banned list, whether it is perceived to be performance-enhancing or

not, is a big gamble and quite often it is a health risk," CIS chief executive officer Marg McGregor said. "Out of respect for the game and consideration of fair play, athletes should avoid all banned substances to avoid getting sidelined."

In concordance with CIS regulations, Western's football team will not be sanctioned. McGregor said this rule was instated a few years ago to ensure athletes in the process of being tested were not penalized by their respective teams.

In response to the incident, Western sports and recreation director Chuck Mathies issued a public statement.

"Western is disappointed by this incident involving a member of our football team. While we are surprised by the findings on this senior student, we support the CIS doping control process," he said.

Mathies also addressed the measures Western currently has in place to deal with doping issues.

"Western provides an educational session on anti-doping for all its CIS

student-athletes in their first year, along with reminders and access to the CIS online program to keep students informed of the applicable regulations throughout their career."

Michael Kerr, a chemistry professor at Western, explained the physiological effects of letrozole on the body.

"Letrozole will reduce estrogen levels significantly while raising testosterone levels," he said.

According to Kerr, the test that the CCES conducts detects the byproduct of breaking down the drug rather than the drug itself. In the case of letrozole, metabolites are used to modify the molecule so that it is easy to excrete.

Kerr added that it isn't uncommon for athletes take letrozole during an off-cycle of steroid use or to reduce bloating, which is a side effect of taking steroids. The suspension Baxter received, however, didn't indicate any presence of steroids in his system.

If Baxter chooses to appeal the decision, the team must do so directly to the CCES. Thus far, no confirmation of an appeal has been made.

SPORTS SHORTS

By Robin Collum

Ups and downs

Bears basketball head coach Don Horwood has been preaching consistency all season, but that's the opposite of what he saw from his team against the U of S (10-8) this weekend. The Bears (12-6) played very well on Friday night and beat the Huskies (featuring Canada West's second-place scorer, Andrew Spagrud) 79-75. They turned around the next night, however, and lost by an embarrassing 74-52.

Had the Bears won both games, they would have secured second spot in the division—and ensured home gym advantage at division playoffs—but Saskatchewan's victory on Saturday means the Huskies still have a small hope of overtaking the Bears.

Pandas make roadkill

Things were sunnier on the Pandas basketball side of the street. Also in

Saskatchewan this weekend, the Alberta women (14-4) swept the Huskies (8-10) and kept firm hold of their position at the top of the division. On Friday night, the Pandas beat the U of S 74-67, while on Saturday the score was 80-65 in Alberta's favour. On Friday Carly McLennan led the Pandas with 16 points, while Kristin Jarock put up 19.

It's crowded at the top

It was a tough weekend for the men's volleyball team (12-2), who were on the road playing the UBC Thunderbirds (12-4). The T-Birds beat the Bears 3-1 Friday night, but Alberta won 3-2 the next night.

The weekend left the Canada West leaderboard as packed as ever; Winnipeg, Alberta, and UBC all have 24 points each, with only sets won/lost putting them in first, second, and third place respectively. Thompson Rivers sits alone at 16 points, and Calgary, Trinity Western, and Manitoba each have 14.

Let's all move to Mexico

I'm wearing a full set of long underwear under my clothes, because our office is stupidly cold.



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Three Days Grace maturing out of 'rock star life'

musicpreview

Three Days Grace

With Seether and Econoline Crush
Wednesday, 30 January at 6pm
Shaw Conference Centre

KATHLEEN BELL
Arts & Entertainment Staff

A cursory exploration of Three Days Grace's latest album, *One X*, might leave you feeling like the band needs a hug—while an in-depth exploration might leave you feeling like you need a hug. But before you go all group therapy on the boys, you can rest assured that when Three Days Grace isn't singing about their pain, they're keeping it light and having a laugh.

"Because we play the [darker] music we play and we talk about the things we do, I think we're very happy people. I think if we were happy songwriters, we'd probably be pissed off," bassist Brad Walst says, cramming in yet another phone interview about an album that, by the end of it all, will have kept them touring for almost two years.

The last time they spent this long away from home, in support of their self-titled 2003 album, the road became a strange and self-destructive place. The whole band was having a tough time dealing with the irony of feeling alone while being surrounded by people every night. Lead singer Adam Gontier handled the overwhelming demands of the tour by taking pills.

"[The tour] was pretty long, and for guys just coming out of rural Ontario, it was pretty surprising and pretty



shocking. We kinda just got wrapped up in the habits, I guess you'd call them," Walst explains. "This time's different. I think we've learned a lot from our past experiences, and we've really focused on trying to be as healthy as we can and try[ing] to devote some more time to other things other than just partying and living out the rock star life."

However, before developing such a healthy outlook on the road, the aftermath of living out the

"rock star life" had to be taken care of. Gontier went to rehab, and while he was there, he excised the past few years.

"He just wrote pages and pages of poems and songs and anything that was on his mind," Walst explains.

In the meantime, the rest of the band jammed and wrote music, while inevitably, the pressure came from the label to follow up the success of the last release. Unwilling to rush the creative process, the band packed up

and headed north out of Toronto to drummer Neil Sanderson's cottage. Without the distraction of the outside world, this is where most of the songs on *One X* came together.

The grizzled confessions of a band led astray turned into another massive hit, which of course sent them back to the tour-heavy environment that got them into so much trouble in the first place. But Walst promises they're more focused this time around and more mature; they're already looking

to the future when they finish the tour safe and sound in April.

"We started writing. It's kinda weird 'cause we've got some of the lightest songs we've ever had, but we also have some of the heaviest songs we've ever had. It's going to be interesting to put them together and see what happens. I'm excited. It's definitely going to evolve, and, like I said before, we're maturing all the time, and I think the songs will mature as well."

Protesting the road of reason

On their new album, Whiby, Ontario's Protest the Hero take a trip back to 'proto-human' times—and tour for home cooking

musicpreview

Protest the Hero

With Silverstein and ill Scarlett
30-31 January at 6pm
Starlite Room

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Editor

High school bands are a dime a dozen, but rare is the group that successfully transitions from cafeteria Battle of the Bands contestants into a successful touring act. Protest the Hero are one of these exceptions, and according to bassist Arif Mirabdolbaghi, playing together for so long has allowed for some huge tweaks to their songcraft.

"We've been together since we were kids; we all picked up our instruments within the same week of each other, and we've all been writing songs together since those days," he explains. "In a lot of ways, we've grown into each other, like a vine around a tree trunk."

We've been doing a lot of touring, and when you tour, you learn what parts translate well live and how to trim the fat on your songwriting."

The five-piece metal-punk group—featuring Mirabdolbaghi, vocalist Rody Walker, drummer Moe Carlson, and guitarists Tim Millar and Luke Hoskin—have certainly come a long way from high school; in 2004, they beat out the much-better-known Alexisonfire in the Favourite Metal Act category in the Canadian Independent Music Awards. Now, they've put their finishing touches on their second full-length album *Fortress*, set

for release this week.

Sub-divided into three sections called Conquest, Capture, and Isosceles, Mirabdolbaghi says it's a throwback to an earlier time of goddess-worshipping humanity.

"A lot of the album is about the idea of counter-culture and certain scenes that seem to be resurging in counter-culture," he explains, his voice becoming animated. "For example, tattoos and drug usage and ecstatic dance rituals—we were proto-humans last time we were doing these things."

"The period that we appear to be lifting ideas and interests from is one that really [comes] before the development of language, before the age of reason" he continues. "I do think that faith and the scientific and rational processes has been eroding; in a lot of ways, I think we've followed the road of reason straight into the heart of madness, and [we] have forgotten some very innate and very human things about ourselves that we're beginning to remember again."

With a substantial North American tour getting underway to promote *Fortress*, the band will be sure to spread their astute observations all around the continent. But before the bulk of the tour begins, the band's spending a two-night stint here in Edmonton for a little home cooking.

"Our drummer's grandparents and some of his family live [in Edmonton], so we always get the preferential treatment from the grandma," he laughs. "She cooks a lot for eight really hungry, toured-out dudes. You get to sleep in a bed; it's good times."



Washington fails to master debating in *The Great Debaters*

theatre review

The Great Debaters

Now Playing

Written by Suzan-Lori Parks and Robert Eisele

Directed by Denzel Washington
Starring Denzel Washington, Forest Whitaker, and Jurnee Smollett

VICTOR VARGAS
Online Coordinator

Imagine meeting an overdressed super-scholar who seems intent on telling you every "Back in my day" story in the most overly dramatic voice possible, and you'll have a good idea of what seeing Denzel Washington's *The Great Debaters* feels like.

Produced, directed, and starring Denzel Washington, the movie deals with two plots: the first follows debate team coach Melvin B. Tolson (Washington), who's attempting to push the Wiley College debate team to compete with white debate teams during the depression. But when night falls, Tolson discards his academic suit and becomes a unionist who's secretly trying to unite the sharecroppers in opposing some unjust company while

dealing with the problems of juggling his dual identity and the political discrimination he faces. It's like John Q. stepped into a time machine and decided to become Batman during the depression.

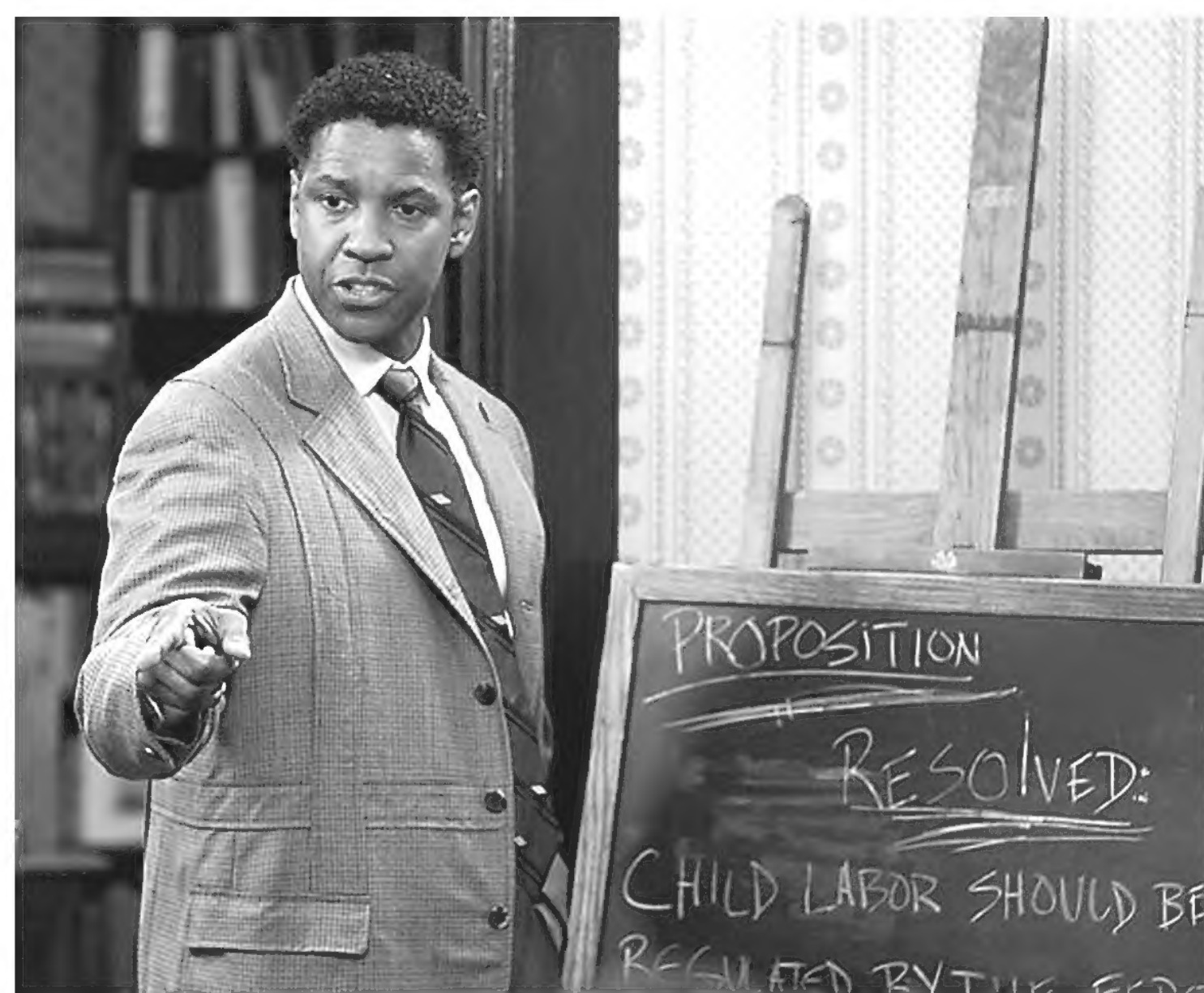
The other plotline examines the all-black Wiley college debate team, which includes young Samantha Boone (Jurnee Smollett), child prodigy and future civil rights activist James L. Farmer Jr. (Forest Whitaker), a radical activist (Nate Parker), and some guy that doesn't actually say much in the movie and promptly disappears halfway in. Whitaker also plays the overly strict religious father of Farmer Jr. who later helps Washington's character in his struggle against the Man, for some reason.

To Washington's credit, he's attempting to do a movie about things that haven't been tried on film, and these risky parts become the sole redeeming qualities of the movie. The reminder that there were black scholars, scientists, and academics during the times of segregation is something that's lost on the public consciousness these days, and Washington makes their struggle utterly fascinating. Also, the debate parts of the movie are engaging and can be followed by anyone.

But unfortunately, Washington immediately buries these perks by attempting to make every scene in the movie more dramatic than the last one. A movie should be a bit of a rollercoaster, with some well-placed patches of comic relief and even a bit of romance, but Washington seems content to just bring his movie deeper and deeper into the world of angst.

Every time you think Washington might lighten things up a bit, something horrible happens; for example, when our motley protagonists are lost in a town and it looks like someone might crack a joke, they run into a lynch mob; a nice pleasant dinner at Tolson's home becomes another source of drama when a team member quits after discovering Tolson's political side. Even when the train's departing to one of their debates—an event that should be happy and filled with anticipation for what's to come—it's made to be foreboding and sad for some reason. I can only imagine that Washington was trying to build more and more tension towards the end, but by the time *The Great Debaters* is over, you're so emotionally exhausted that you're simply glad it's finally finished.

All of this angst and pain could



be explained away by the clause of "this is a true story," except that this story is riddled with historical inaccuracies. A debate brings up how evil Adolf Hitler is, even though the war hadn't started; Smollett's character—dubbed Wiley College's first woman debater—never actually existed; and even the main historical premise of the movie is harmed because it fails to mention that the team didn't actually become national

champions: because Wiley wasn't part of the debate society, they couldn't gain the title, even though they beat the reigning champions.

If you're a die-hard fan of Denzel Washington's work or you want to appear really smart, you might be able to enjoy *The Great Debaters*. However, if you don't have your room covered in Denzel posters, only go to this movie if you want to sit through the longest two hours of your life.



gateway student journalism society

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Applicantions should be sent to Adam Gaumont, the Gateway Editor-in-Chief, at eic@gateway.ualberta.ca on or before February 15.

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REYNOLDS FILIPATRE

EDMONTON JOURNAL



Over Longoria's cheap laughs

The transition from bridezilla to husband haunter is creepier than it is funny

theatrereview

Over Her Dead Body
Starts 1 February
Directed by Jeff Lowell
Starring Eva Longoria Parker, Paul Rudd, Lake Bell, and Jason Biggs

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Every bride dreams of a fairytale wedding: it's a day where everything is supposed to go right, from your flowers and your dress to your four-tiered cake. If you think that the worst thing that could happen is the bride getting cold feet, you're wrong—she could always die, which is exactly what Eva Longoria-Parker does in her new romantic-but-kind-of-freaky comedy *Over Her Dead Body*.

The film begins with high strung Kate, played by Longoria Parker, as the ultimate bridezilla trying to pull off her perfect wedding. When the angel ice sculpture she orders arrives without wings, Kate demands that the seven-foot-tall ice woman be taken away immediately. In the process, the sculpture falls and kills her before the marriage can take place; Kate is literally crushed by an angel. She then goes to limbo, verbally abuses a real

angel, and gets sent back to Earth to complete unspecified and unfinished business.

In the meantime, Kate's grieving husband Henry (Paul Rudd) is taken to a psychic (Lake Bell) by his sister to try and make contact with his dead fiancée so that he can move on with his life. The psychic, Ashley, is affable but unlucky, and quickly finds herself falling for the client she's supposed to helping and begins to lie to Henry about speaking to Kate so that they can continue to see each other.

The plan backfires when Kate's ghost begins to stalk Ashley, not wanting her would-have-been husband to move on. The movie is a very literal take on the old "over my dead body" adage, as a girl who's actually dead won't allow her old flame to move on and find happiness with someone else.

Longoria-Parker is sharp, funny, and completely believable as a bitchy and psychotic dead ex-fiancée. Though Kate has a lot of laugh-worthy lines, her omnipresence and constant stalking of her husband's new love interest goes past amusing and borders on creepy and weird at times. For example, in one scene, her ghost floats above the bed while Henry and Ashley try to have sex.

The usually charming Rudd is flat and emotionless, especially during the parts where Henry is supposed to be mourning the loss of his dead almost-wife. Most of his lines come across as deadpan and uninteresting. Jason Biggs (of the *American Pie* series) also makes a few appearances as Ashley's secretly infatuated and sexually confused best friend.

The movie has a few genuinely hilarious scenes, but it's also extremely predictable—except for the last 30 seconds. Throughout the movie, it's suggested that the unfinished business Kate has to complete to "get her wings" is to let go of Henry and allow him to love someone else. The film seems to head towards the typical happy ending where all the wrongs of the previous 90 minutes are resolved, but it takes an awkward twist for Kate in particular, which leaves the viewer confused and unsatisfied—a perfect ending to suggest a sequel that shouldn't be made.

Over Her Dead Body relies heavily on obvious jokes, which do induce some laughter, but some of its plot elements are confusing and under-explained. The movie isn't worth \$12 to see in theatres, but may be worth renting if you're in the mood for a few cheap laughs and cheaper popcorn.



featuredalbum

Rivers Cuomo
Alone: The Home Recordings
Geffen Records

SEAN STEELS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

If you didn't think that Rivers Cuomo, lead singer of Weezer, was a little weird and self-obsessed before, you certainly will after hearing *Alone: The Home Recording of Rivers Cuomo*.

Before diving into this very unique musical experience I feel it necessary to explain a thing or two: first, the words "home recording" are to be taken at face value—many of the tracks sound like they were recorded on a four-track recorder in someone's basement. Second, there's nothing Rivers Cuomo considers too strange or experimental to have tried recording in his basement.

The album opens with the one-word thriller "Ooh," a classically inspired drone of voices, all of which belong to the nasal and unacoustically suited Cuomo. "The World That We Love So Much" is a dreamy interlude of nylon strings. Sadly, the dream is quickly interrupted by painfully emotive screeches and gasps.

The tracks quickly plummet into ridiculousness with a rock/rap cover of Ice Cube's "The Bomb" and a few demos from Weezer's legendary never-released album, *Songs From The Black Hole*. Unfortunately, the cat-call melodies and rudimentary plot (rudimen-

tary, yet nearly unintelligible without the liner notes) are more likely to dismiss the mystique surrounding the rock culture mystery than entice any more curiosity.

As hard as it may be to admit (especially for Rivers), the album's mild, residual charm doesn't lie in the creative genius of the former frontman's solo portfolio. The most entertained listeners will be hardcore Weezer fans looking for a window into the force behind one of the most memorable bands of the '90s and 2000s.

With that in mind, *Alone: The Home Recordings of Rivers Cuomo* offers plenty of low-fi peeks into Weezer's early work. The liner notes provide vivid (though self-centered) description of the creative process and the mind behind some great rock tunes—even if the collection here doesn't live up to their greatness.

Hear sample tracks off of *Alone* at www.thegatewayonline.ca



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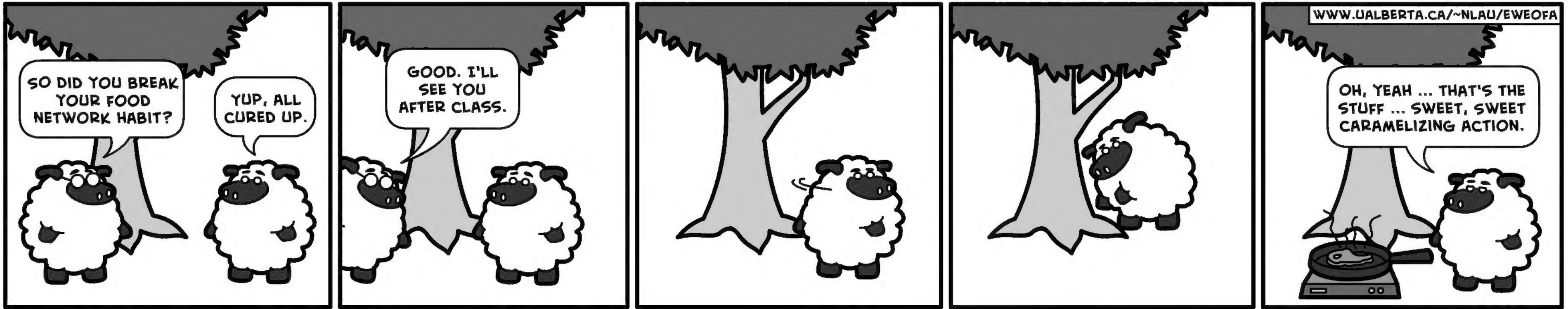


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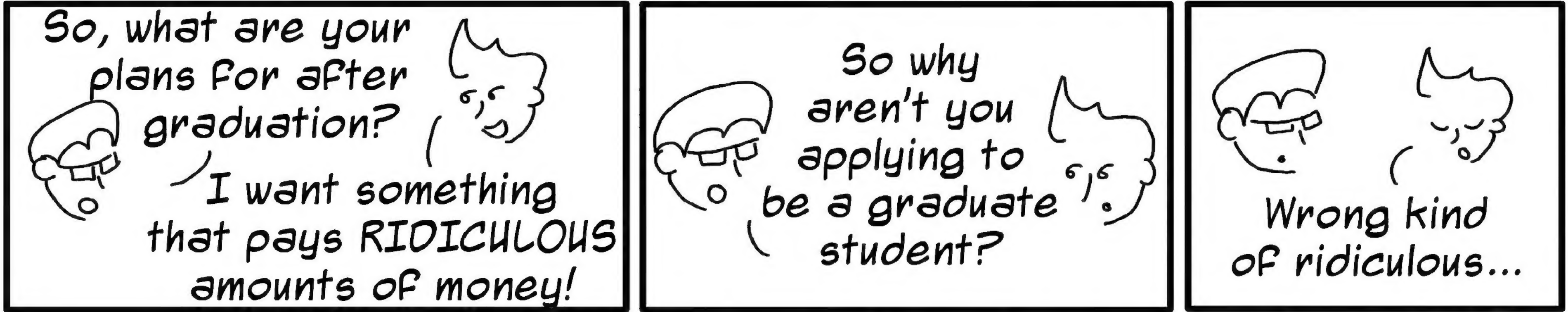


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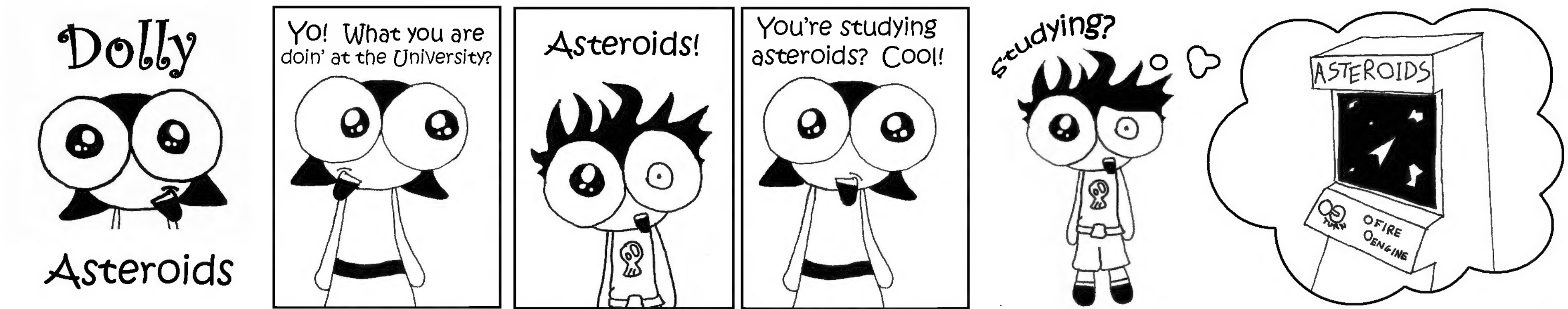
EWE OF A by Norman Lau



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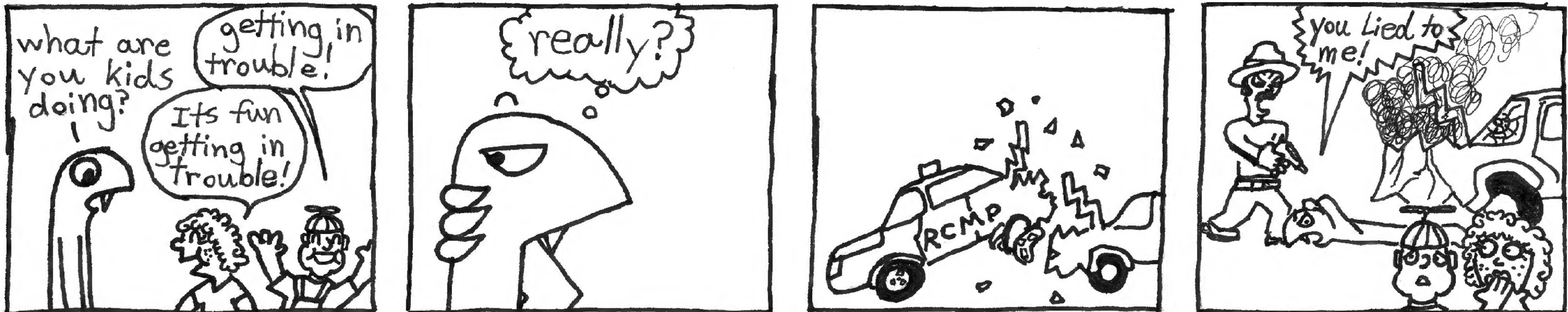
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Child. Plus a panel of Big Brothers Big Sisters volunteers who will share ideas for activities that volunteers and kids can do together. 5pm. Thurs 31 Jan. CAB 235. For more info contact Amanda at 424-8181 ext 238 or amanda.nielsen@su.ualberta.ca or visit bbbsedmonton.org.

UoA Ecohouse Open House, 12pm-2pm, Monday 4 Feb, 11025 Saskatchewan Drive (East Campus Village). Take a guided tour showcasing the renovations of this unique student residence, plus 1pm sustainable living presentation inc. handy local tips. Light refreshments provided, all welcome. www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/ecohouse/

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Young, attractive student couple looking for some fun with other couples. Email objectare@gmail.com

THE GATEWAY

volume XCVIII number 30 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ tuesday, 29 january, 2008



KATIEMOONEY

I-WEEK IN FULL SWING Opening ceremonies entertained lunch-time crowds and kicked off I-Week last Friday at SUB stage.

Garneau residents contend frat house

BRENDAN COX
News Writer

Members of the Zeta Psi fraternity and homeowners in the Garneau area are involved in an ongoing debate over the proposed rezoning of a house on 88th avenue and just west of 109th street.

The fraternity contends that it was compelled to move to the house due to a lack of affordable housing at other locations. However, older, more family-oriented members of the community insist that fraternities disrespect their neighbours by hosting parties and causing disturbances. These points and more were brought up during a public meeting at the City Arts Centre on 17 January.

"It was agreed between the community and the fraternities that the fraternities would only be able to locate in certain areas of Garneau," said Anne de Villars of the Garneau Community League. "This particular fraternity is trying to locate outside those areas. The reason why certain areas were chosen and others were not is because, as the plan says, fraternity use of the community is not compatible with family dwellings, so they should be on the periphery of the community and this house isn't." During the meeting, de Villars displayed pictures of parties at other fraternity houses.

"It's our experience with the fraternities over the last many, many years that they do not necessarily behave well. Not all of them, but we do have examples of fraternities that don't think they have to abide by the rules—the city's rules: noise bylaws and the planning bylaws," she added. The house in question is owned

by alumni of the fraternity, but can't officially be used as a fraternity headquarters unless it's rezoned by City Council, which means that Zeta Psi is currently without a legitimate base of operations.

"It's our experience with the fraternities over the last many, many years that they do not necessarily behave well."

ANNE DE VILLARS
GARNEAU COMMUNITY LEAGUE

The house is currently shared by five students, some of whom are members of Zeta Psi. James Upright, the president of Zeta Psi and a resident of the house, said that the new location makes life easier, and that it's nicer and much more affordable. Fraternity elders support the students living in the house by subsidizing a large part of the rent.

"Through our older members, we provide some of the best internship and networking opportunities for a lot of guys. I think our elders from this fraternity remember what it was like for them as university students, and now they're trying to give back," he said.

Members of Zeta Psi used to rent a house about two blocks south of their current location. The former chapter house was appropriately zoned for fraternity use, but it was more expensive and further away from campus.

PLEASE SEE **FRAT HOUSE** ♦ PAGE 3

University BoG increases tuition and residence fees amid student protest

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

The University of Alberta Board of Governors approved a 4.6 per cent increase in tuition fees on Friday, as well as an 8.75 per cent increase in Edmonton residence fees.

The tuition increase will come into effect on 1 September, 2008, and will raise fees for full-time general arts and science students by \$215.55 to \$4901.55. But while this increase is tied to Canadian Price Index, the residence rate increase includes a 4.05 per cent increase in addition to CPI for deferred maintenance costs.

Prior to making its decision, the Board heard arguments from members

of the University administration and student representatives in favour of and against the increases.

While students were ultimately unable to convince the majority of the Board to vote against increasing fees, Graduate Students' Association President Julie Charchun said she believes the student presentations remain as important as ever.

"We still have to believe in the Board's ability to face these issues, to have a healthy conversation about them, and we have to exercise every opportunity that we have to present the students' point of view no matter what we think the Board might decide to do, because the Board doesn't always make the same decision," she said.

Resident Halls Association President Peter Ochs, who gathered over 2000 signatures prior to the Board meeting in opposition to raising residence fees, echoed Charchun's comments about the importance of continuing to promote student voices, even if it often seems like they go unheard.

"We feel that if we keep coming back, if we keep presenting these issues, we will be able to ensure that the University dots their i's, crosses their t's, [and] does look at where this money is going," Ochs said, noting that students have a responsibility to make sure that the Board puts "serious consideration" into why they keep raising rent and why they keep raising tuition.

PLEASE SEE **INCREASE** ♦ PAGE 4



FILE PHOTO: MIKE OTTO

'A BAD TASTE' Charchun thinks debt loads are souring the U of A for graduates.

Inside

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Fashionable people

Stereotypes be damned—sometimes a dude just wants to feel *pretty*. Check out the dos and don'ts of man spas.

FEATURE, PAGE 8



Questionable things

Sex, drugs, and rock & roll are only the tip of the iceberg for Three Days Grace after being on the road for two years.

A&E, PAGE 13

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **FENICE**, **Joanna**, **Kepler** and **Whitney**. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Apples to Apples and Mind Games.

contributors

Old Man Winter, The Flu, Apathy, Not Jonn Knech, Kathleen Bell, Sarah Stead, Sean Steels, Gary Allen, Your Robot Overlord, Brian Gould, Cody Civiero, Maria Kotovych, All whales that aren't narwhals, Norman Lau, Ross Lockwood, Mike Snider, Robin's Tears, Brendan Cox, Cody Civiero, Rachel Hendricks, Jeff Martin, Evan Tanasiuk, Pete Yee, Lauren Stieglitz, Cyril Balitbit, Katie Mooney, Sam Brooks, Steffi Rosskopf.



STEFFI ROSSKOPF

RIGHTING AFGHANISTAN Sima Samar, chairwoman of the Independent Afghanistan Human Rights Commission, speaks at the first keynote of I-Week Monday evening.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Cody Civiero

CHAIR SNARE

Campus Security is looking into the theft of several seats from the Tory Lecture Theatre. The chairs were removed some time between 11-14 January, despite being bolted to a frame. The seats are said to be worth several hundred dollars. If you have any information regarding the theft, please contact Campus 5-0.

NO VACANCY

On 14 January at 1:50pm, Campus Security received a report of a male sleeping in the

lobby of University Terrace. Upon arrival, peace officers found a male well-known to both Campus 5-0 and Edmonton Police Service. The man had an extensive criminal record for robbery, break and enter, and assault, and was found to be in possession of several break-in tools. He was charged with trespassing and escorted off University property.

ALTERED PERMIT ONLY VALID AT THE IMPOUND LOT

At 3pm on 14 January, Campus Security investigated a report of an altered parking permit near the Van Vliet Centre. The driver, here to attend University preparation classes, was issued several fines by Parking Services, and his vehicle was towed. He was also given a stern warning about fraud. Campus 5-0 would like to remind everyone that it is

illegal to alter a parking permit in any way, and that a person could be charged under the Criminal Code for doing so.

KEEP YOUR MIND ON YOUR MONEY AND YOUR MONEY ON YOUR MIND

On 16 January, Campus Security investigated two separate wallet thefts. There are no suspects in either instance; however, in both cases, the owners of the wallets had walked away from where they were studying, leaving their belongings unattended for a few minutes. Campus 5-0 reminds you to always keep your valuables with you, as theft is a problem on campus.

CLASSROOM MADE OPOSSUM ACCESSIBLE

On 18 January at 7:45am, Campus Security received a report of vandal-

ism in ETLC. CSS members attended, at which time they found numerous ceiling tiles removed and several chairs hanging from the ceiling in their place. The chairs in question were not the same ones as reported stolen from Tory. There are no identified suspects at this time.

RUBBING IT THE WRONG WAY

At 8pm on 20 January, Campus Security received a report that a male was viewing pornography in the Knowledge Common on a University computer. CSS members attended and identified an unaffiliated male whom they found viewing the material. The curious online looker, who had also been reported following a student around the Cameron Library area, was transported off campus.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Ryan Heise and Sam Brooks

As you may be aware, it's really fucking cold outside.

What were you thinking when you got up and came to class?



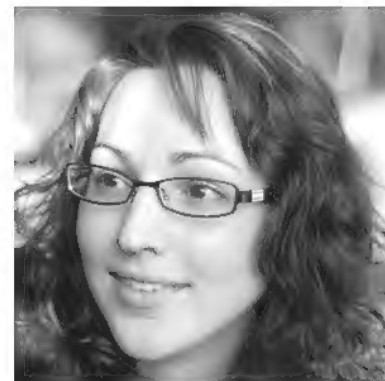
Amanda Murdoch
Arts II



Alvin Tang
Arts II



Alissa Mamur
Education IV



Karly Burr
Immunology II

"I couldn't breathe." [Why couldn't you breathe?] "Because it was so cold. As soon as you step outside, the air is so cold so it's really hard to breathe."

"It's the coldest day I have ever experienced. It's the coldest day since I came to Edmonton."

"That I wish I did not have a paper due so I did not have to go to class today."

"I was thinking, 'Holy fuck, it's cold outside and I might turn into a popsicle as soon as I leave the house.' And I ate some porridge. Supposedly that makes you warm."

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: SAM BROOKS

TEAR-JERKING FALSEHOODS Men are more willing to sit through a “chick flick” if they know it’s a work of fiction.

Males handle fictional ‘chick flicks’ better than true stories—study

RACHEL HENDRICKS
News Writer

Women dragging their spouses to the latest chick flick might do well to tell them it’s based on fiction.

The University of Alberta’s Dr Jennifer Argo, who teaches marketing in the School of Business, found that while women prefer emotional melodramas that are based on true stories, men prefer the fictitious variety.

“If you were to ask [a man] if he would like to go to Blockbuster and pick out a movie, chances are he’s not going to be picking melodramatic entertainment, even though it’s based on fiction,” Argo explained. “But if they have to endure it, have to suffer through with their girlfriend or spouse, they’ll like it more if it’s based on fiction.”

The study, which Argo authored with Drs Rui Zhu and Darren Dahl of the University of British Columbia for the February issue of the *Journal of Consumer Research*, asked research participants to read the transcript of a TV pilot idea. The narratives were actu-

ally short stories which Argo described as featuring protagonists who work to overcome obstacles with perseverance and endurance, and which also contain an element of sadness.

“Men use the info that it is fictional as an excuse to let down their tough-guy facades in a safe setting.”

DR JENNIFER ARGO
U OF A SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The result was that male participants who were told that the tear-jerker narrative was a “make-believe story” beforehand rated the story to be much more enjoyable than those who were told it was a “real-life story.”

But the team has an idea as to why men might find make-believe melodramas more appealing.

“Men use the info that it is fictional as an excuse to let down their tough-

guy facades in a safe setting. When a story is make-believe they can leave the story and the way it made them feel behind when they shut their book or leave the theatre, as it doesn’t impinge on their real life,” Argo said.

“When the story is real they can’t as easily leave the story behind, and so as a result they maintain their ‘big boys don’t cry’ stereotypes.”

The team, therefore, has some innovative suggestions for the movie industry.

“They often tell you at the beginning of a movie if it’s based on fact,” Argo said. “That is bad if you want the males to enjoy the movie. So if you want to appeal to males, don’t say that. And if it’s based on fiction and you want to appeal to men, make sure you put the line in.”

Argo said that the research will also be of interest to advertisers, who aim to reach members of their target audience in good moods, since TV viewers are known to rate products more favourably when advertised during programs they enjoy.

Frat controversy not new to the Garneau area

FRAT HOUSE ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
“This house is closer to campus, which is better for students, and it’s close to other fraternity houses and rental properties, so we’ll be of little impact to the community,” Upright explained. “This house also had a more reasonable asking price than a lot of other houses that are close to campus.”

“Through our older members, we provide some of the best internship and networking opportunities for a lot of guys.”

JAMES UPRIGHT
ZETA PSI PRESIDENT

Upright said he believes that Zeta Psi is the victim of negative stereotypes against fraternities. But Nancy Hunt, a resident of the house two doors down from the proposed fraternity house, said the needs of her family need to be considered.

“There are already fraternities in the area. I would say we’re living in harmony right now, but I’ve been living here for twelve years and I know what they are. They do have parties. They’re social,” Hunt said.

“Another fraternity in the area would just be too much,” she added.




CYRIL BALITBIT

DON’T TAKE MY HOUSE, BRO Upright stands in front of the would-be frat house.

“We’ve actually already called in noise complaints about [the proposed Zeta Psi house because] there are fraternity people living there.”

There are currently three fraternity

houses and one sorority house on 87th avenue, as well as two sorority houses and one fraternity house just west of 110th street. City Council is scheduled to hear the case in the spring.



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INCREASE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Across the river, Grant MacEwan College Students' Association President Justin Benko explained that his institution also approved raising tuition by 4.6 per cent, the inflation index calculated by the Alberta Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology. However, student representatives at MacEwan were successful in ensuring that portions of that increase go directly to helping students.

"We ended up getting \$1 million taken from the actual tuition increase put towards new needs-based bursaries," Benko explained, adding that another \$500 000 was earmarked for sustainability initiatives and another \$500 000 put towards building a new student centre at MacEwan.

Benko stressed that while he didn't vote in favour of a tuition increase, he is happy that an agreement was worked out with the MacEwan College Board of Governors. At the U of A, money raised from tuition increases is unrestricted dollars. However, the Administration stressed that much of

the funds go towards the University's largest expenditure—faculty and staff salaries.

U of A Vice-President (Finance & Administration) Phyllis Clark explained during the meeting that the tuition increase is a fundamental part of the University's operating budget and that, despite this fee increase, the U of A still has a small operating budget deficit.

"I'm not going to say how much because we are trying to beat it down as close to \$3.5 million as possible, but it is turning out to be a challenge," Clark said.

But more than teaching or deferred maintenance, it was the question of affordability that concerned Students' Union President Michael Janz.

Janz stressed that every time fees are increased, the debt loads that students incur go up, as do the chances that someone will not apply to the U of A because they see it as financially unfeasible.

"Students are leaving the U of A with a bad taste in their mouth," Charchun added. By further increas-

ing tuition and residence fees, she said student debt is ultimately being increased while quality of life for students is decreasing—factors she considers detrimental to future alumni relations.

"We are doing nothing to promote alumni to want to support the University once they go on and get those high-paying jobs that they are promised," Charchun said.

However, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein said that from his and his wife's own experiences graduating with large debt loads, he understands the financial pressures students sometimes face, but hopes that students will understand the value of those sacrifices.

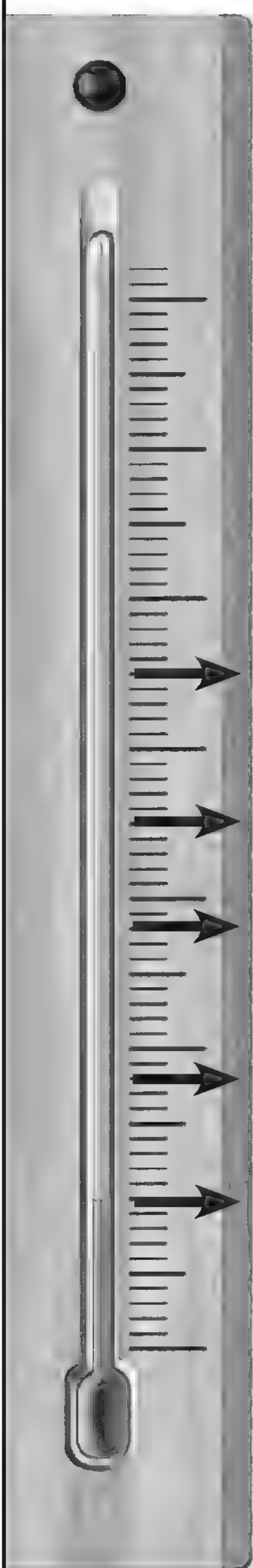
"My personal belief is that over time, individuals will come more and more to appreciate the very dramatic personal benefit derived from their investment and the university education, and that benefit is directly linked to everything that we invest by way of faculty, facilities, and research opportunities," Amrhein said.



FILE PHOTO: MIKE OTTO

DESPISING DEBT Janz is worried increasing fees will scare off potential students.

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OPINION

opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca • tuesday, 29 january, 2008

Tiger likes to lie low on hard issues

APPARENTLY, PLAYING PERFECT GOLF ISN'T ALL Tiger Woods is supposed to do.

Playing—and winning—his first tournament of the year this weekend, Woods was embroiled in a two-week-old controversy surrounding comments made by Golf Channel anchor Kelly Tilghman, who joked that if his competitors wanted to best him, they should “lynch him in the back alley.”

It should be no surprise to anyone that Woods quickly forgave Tilghman, a longtime friend, and declared the remarks to be of “no harm.” But despite this, the issue continued to play out more than two weeks after the initial remarks, as Tilghman apologized on air this weekend and Woods was questioned about it right at the start of his pre-tournament press conference.

The bigger concern here is that there are still those that expect Tiger Woods to be an outspoken advocate of the black community—someone along the lines of Jim Brown or Muhammad Ali. However, Woods has never been that guy. Even when Fuzzy Zoeller hoped he wasn't serving fried chicken and collard greens at his Masters victory dinner in 1997, the 21-year-old Woods refused to accept an apology, but never raised a bigger furor over it—the media did that for him. And while Woods' position as one of the most famous athletes on the planet, a media darling, and a man with hundreds of millions in endorsements would give him the perfect platform as an advocate, he has always refused to use it.

It hasn't always even been racial issues—when Augusta National, the site of the Masters, was being protested by women's groups over its male-only membership in 2003, he denied cries for him to boycott the course—but those are the ones that stir up the most trouble. Woods is widely credited for the surging popularity of golf in the non-elderly-Caucasian-male demographic, and some see that as a sign he also needs to lend his support to those alternate demographics.

But while Woods may be the richest and most famous black athlete in the world since Michael Jordan retired, it needs to be remembered that he's only one-quarter African-American and even calls himself “CaublinAsian,” a reference to his Caucasian, black, Native American, and Asian heritage. In fact, Woods is a practicing Buddhist, which suggests that he identifies more with his mother's Asian heritage. But because of his skin colour, the man is expected to use his influence for social activism.

Whether it's his mixed heritage, his soft-spoken personality, or even, as Dave Chappelle once joked, a fear of losing all of his endorsements, the fact remains that Tiger Woods has never shown an interest in showing himself into the centre of controversy. He'd rather let it pass him over while he continues to rack up wins on the PGA Tour—Sunday's puts him fourth on the all-time list, and he's only 32. Instead of making a big deal of Tilghman's remarks, the media probably should have remembered this. After all, if he's not offended, no one needs to be offended for him.

PAUL OWEN
Managing Editor

Chargin' their thetans

EARLIER THIS MONTH, A HIVE MIND OF BASEMENT-dwelling troglodytes declared open warfare on the Church of Scientology. The notorious group, “Anonymous,” is famed for its previous exploits of terrorizing MySpace poets and popularizing cat macros.

What started with a series of denial-of-service attacks on Scientology websites has expanded to a massive online campaign of Digg spamming, and has gone so far as organizing public gatherings to protest the Church in London. This is serious business.

While I've never been a fan of Scientology's questionable methods, and while it's relevant to my interests to see that someone is finally calling them out, I'm not so sure that Anon's means can justify their desired end. The rest of the Internet sees what they're doing here, and their reputation doesn't add much to their credibility. While they may have won most of the battles henceforth, it's only a matter of time before Scientology fires back and plays the religious persecution card, if only for the epic lulz.

MIKE KENDRICK
Design & Production Editor



CONALPIERSE

LETTERS

Opposing views don't threaten my faith

I think that Sarah Stead's article about Ezra Levant and the Muhammad cartoons makes a fundamental error in defining freedom of religion (re: Levant vs AHRCC: where to draw the line on free speech?" 24 January).

As a Christian, I quite frequently see my beliefs criticized and mocked, often within this paper, and often within the classroom. Nevertheless, I don't feel my freedom of religion has been compromised—even if I find some of the views I speak of distasteful. I can still worship my God, and speak about the Christian faith without systematic discrimination.

I don't believe that people like Richard Dawkins, Phillip Pullman and Christopher Hitchens should be censored for the sake of my freedom of religion, because I know that sword cuts both ways; some of my views could meet the same fate. Anyone in Canada with religious convictions—including Muslims—should be thankful they have the freedom to hold views that aren't accepted by mainstream society, but with that freedom, they should try to respect others' freedom as well.

MICAH BROWN
Economics III

Students also at fault for poor state of gyms

As the Chair of the University of Alberta Recreation Action

Committee, I believe that Mr Heise is absolutely right in throwing the Van Vliet Fitness Centre into a “Burlap Sack” (17 January). It's overcrowded, outdated, and due for a major makeover. However, I still believe that there's a point that he clearly overlooked: we as students are as responsible for the Fitness Centre falling behind as anyone else.

We missed our chance to make changes in the 2006 PAC Yes referendum, and while the argument of whether that campaign was well-thought out or not remains, we need to make a proactive movement for change. Fitness and Wellness facilities are popping up in Universities all over Canada, and all are helped to be paid for by their main patrons: the students.

We as students need to make the issue of our degrading fitness facilities a priority, and we need to be willing to be active participants in the process of obtaining these centres. Until we do, we'll continue to fall behind when compared to Canadian Universities, and we will continue to wait in absurd lines to get on an elliptical.

ERIC KERKHOVEN
Phys Ed IV

Suggestions for I-Week

I always enjoy returning to your delightful campus and participating in classes and activities.

A major recommendation, however, would be to add more substance over style, and that the activities regarding International

Week be advertised and marketed more open and freely.

ROBERT S
Student at Large

Pashtun politics more complicated than shown

If Hasnain Khan wishes to describe himself as an expert on Pashtun cultural nuances, the least he could do is be correct about them.

First of all, in his article “A course not worth following,” 24 January, Mr Khan notes that “Pashtuns have never subjugated themselves to foreign aggressors.” Certainly, this is true. However, what he fails to mention is that Pashtuns have never subjugated themselves to centralized government: not under the British, not in neighboring Pakistan, and most certainly not under the Taliban.

In fact, the Taliban, while ruling Afghanistan, used the same tactic the British previously used (and the Soviet Union rejected) known as “encapsulation,” wherein control of the Pashtun tribal areas was more or less left to the tribal jirgas in favour of controlling the more manageable areas of the country. While sovereignty over that particular region was claimed on an official basis, it was never exercised.

In the Taliban's particular case, this was for a very good reason. Under the Taliban, Afghanistan was subject to Sharia law. The Pashtun tribes, however, traditionally reject Sharia in favour of Pashtunwali, a code of justice unique to the Pashtun. Even if they constitute a majority amongst the Taliban, the Taliban certainly

don't constitute a majority among the Pashtun. The continued preeminence of Pashtunwali throughout that particular region proves it.

One also has to consider the ethnically homogenous makeup of Afghanistan's inland regions in particular. While the Pashtun are the largest ethnic group in Afghanistan, they constitute only 40 per cent of the population. The remaining 60 per cent have historically rejected anything resembling Pashtun rule of Afghanistan (which the Taliban regime resembled only on a superficial basis). Likewise, however, they've rarely agreed on how they would govern themselves.

If Mr Khan wishes to make the case that Afghanistan's culture and history complicates the current war in Afghanistan, that case certainly can be made. However, he owes it to his readers to make that case correctly, a test that the article in question doesn't pass.

PATRICK ROSS
Arts IV

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

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Schools can't buy their way out of student apathy with cash incentives



CODY
CIVIERO

Two Georgia high schools have started a program that involves paying underperforming students to go to the study hall. Students who qualify will be paid \$8 per hour to attend two-hour study hall sessions twice a week for 15 weeks—and if they sufficiently improve their grades, they're given a cash bonus at the end of the course.

The schools selected 40 of the weakest students to partake in the program, which means the hard-working kids who are self-motivated enough to study in the first place get the shaft. Moreover, this strategy won't have a positive effect on poorly performing students who genuinely want help and who attend study hall sessions without pay, so the experiment really only rewards the students who don't give a damn about school—an attitude that money can't change.

Even if some students respond to financial incentives, this teaches the wrong values. Being paid for something as inherently self-rewarding as acquiring an education will foster a sense of entitlement for the students involved. Being taught that success is synonymous with money will diminish their natural thirst for knowledge and replace it with greed.

We need look no further than the

countless social psychology studies demonstrating that extrinsic motivators destroy intrinsic ones. This means that even though they might initially be encouraged by financial gains, it comes at a cost of personal desire to learn. Besides that, your schoolwork is something that you're simply supposed to do. Monetary rewards give the impression that studying somehow goes above and beyond what's expected, which shouldn't be the case.

Being taught that success is synonymous with money will diminish their natural thirst for knowledge and replace it with greed.

Practically speaking, the idea doesn't make much sense either. Because only the students with low grades are eligible for this program, this could tempt some average students to take an intentional dive in marks in order to be eligible for easy money. With minimum wage in Georgia at a paltry \$5.15 per hour, it doesn't make a lot of sense in comparison for a kid to take a job flipping burgers while studying on his own time.

I wouldn't blame students who are slightly above the grade cutoff for bombing their next test—hell, I'd be one of them. Paying by the hour is also a poor choice, as it ensures that it will needlessly take hours to

get minutes' worth of homework done.

A 2006 study performed by Ellen Garbarino and Robert Slonim at Case Western Reserve University on student incentives indicated that such programs are ineffective. The only subject in which test scores improved was mathematics. Furthermore, the students who gained the most from receiving the incentive were those already performing well—not the lowest-performing students. Advocates of incentives-based education argue that while students will react to the cash at first, when the incentive is taken away, they will learn “for learning's sake.” Yet this study found absolutely no carry-over effects when the incentive was taken away, concluding that “this may suggest that the existence of external motivation has a negative effect on the intrinsic desire to learn.”

As much as I expect this hare-brained scheme to fail, even more problems can arise on the off-chance it appears to succeed. This could see misguided councillors propose that we pay students to engage in certain levels of physical activity in order to curb the obesity epidemic, or any number of things that people are just supposed to do without reward, like eat their vegetables and wash their hands.

Financial incentives don't attack the root problems of failing educational systems. They're unfair to some students, invite exploitation by others, instill the wrong principles, and, worst of all, simply don't work. We need to stop expecting a pat on the back and a cookie for scraping the bottom of the academic barrel and start working for the praise we desire.

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The kid gloves are off—it's time to be rude



MARIA
KOTOVYCH

While some people like to make fluffy New Year's resolutions such as “losing weight,” I decided to try something different this year—something that I'll actually stick to. On 1 January, I decided to be as obnoxious as I can to people who annoy me. It's now nearly a month into 2008, and I'm actually doing quite well with this resolution.

As we all know, traffic flow through campus hallways isn't always smooth, especially between classes or around noon. Yet, I'll always end up stuck behind that person who stops right in the middle of the crowded hallway to search for a book in their backpack or to dig around in a pocket or purse for a ringing cell phone. Equally charming are those groups of two or more who saunter casually in a hallway, their bodies spread out just enough to take up the entire space, their stories of weekend debauchery much too scintillating to allow for them to notice anyone else who happens to be in their surroundings.

In the past, if I wanted to get past these roadblocks, I might have tried to say a polite “excuse me.” But all too often, I had to repeat this phrase several times before the human wall

“Next time I'm in the library and I'm forced to listen to your inanities, I'm going to take my biggest, heaviest textbook, slam it down on the table in front of them, and then proceed to treat them like third graders, giving them a syrupy, cutesy lecture about how ‘inside voices belong indoors.’”

would grant me the favour of letting me pass.

A louder and more sarcastic “excuse me!” might do the trick; however, much like a badly clogged toilet, a human obstruction also requires a more caustic approach. So my new approach is to walk immediately behind these people, hold my cell phone up to my ear, and speak as loudly as I can about my horrible (but thankfully fictional) contagious rash and oozing blisters that doctors haven't yet been able to identify. The group's leisurely stroll suddenly turns into a trot as they try to be discreet about losing me and, all of a sudden, I can walk at a decent pace again.

But my new policy of rudeness isn't confined to crowded hallways: I also take it with me on the road. All too often, my quiet drives are disturbed by the sound and vibration of a loud thumping bass coming from the car that just pulled up alongside me. During the summer, this person is kind enough to open their windows so that they can share their music with everyone.

This is when I crank my volume as loud as possible, blasting my Ukrainian polka music right out the

window at the little brat. The thump, thump, thump is no match for my Oom-pa-pa.

And then there's the library, a location that some people insist on treating as a social hangout rather than a place to work and study. I've never understood why people would go to the library, spread out all their books, and then proceed to chat with their friends about the trivial details of their life, such as the number of times they puked the morning following a drinking binge.

Next time I'm in the library and I'm forced to listen to your inanities, I'm going to take my biggest, heaviest textbook, slam it down on the table in front of them, and then proceed to treat them like third graders, giving them a syrupy, cutesy lecture about how “inside voices belong indoors.”

So to the inconsiderate few out there, remember that any person who can dish out obnoxious behaviour can expect an equally (if not more) rude reaction from me. So don't be surprised when, in 2008, you find yourself on the wrong end of an angry woman, because buddy, you've earned it. Besides, I wouldn't do this if I didn't value civility so highly.

After Iveson goes away, the pundits come out to play

Even though he's trying to improve our city, Don's hard work is being ignored because his critics are upset that Nickel lost his seat



BRIAN
GOULD

Don Iveson's successful bid for city council was one of the few bright spots in what was an otherwise bland municipal election last October. Running a strong campaign with the help of students of this very institution, Iveson's fresh ideas (to this city, anyway) put him in a solid second and ousted "fiscal hawk" Mike Nickel. It was that last bit that had local pundits calling the win the work of a vast left-wing conspiracy—a sentiment that seems to be resurfacing again.

Last month, Iveson attended the UN Climate Change Conference in Bali, Indonesia. The timing is important, because 30 days is the estimated maximum turn-around time for a FOIP (Freedom Of Information and Protection of Privacy) request, and unsurprisingly, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) wanted to view his travel expenses.

The result? Economy-class return airfare (strike one), a hotel stay in a low-cost room (strike two), and a total cost of around \$3200 (strike three). All in all, a thrifty trip, considering the distance and the demand for accommodations among the 10 000-plus delegates. Faced with the prospect of not having anything worth complaining about, the pundits instead decided

to be hypocritical about hypocrisy, claiming that the trip itself did more harm to the environment than good. Never mind that a month ago when the trip was made no one said a word—though, admittedly, that's not as important as trying to stick one to Iveson for knocking off their man.

While flying in 10 000 diplomats to talk about global warming certainly could have been more environmentally friendly, it's far from hypocritical to attend, and holding the conference at all was hardly Iveson's idea. Conferences such as these are important diplomatic tools, facilitating exchanges of ideas that require face-to-face contact.

Under certain situations, video conferencing and other such methods might very well make sense, but it's simply impossible to facilitate meaningful discussion of this scale and type remotely. The policy changes Iveson will suggest easily justify the trip—and besides, how was he supposed to get there? Sailboats and bicycles?

Iveson's critics even went so far as to say that UN climate change regulations only affect the federal government, and that the city has no business attending the conference. However, even if that were true, Iveson was, in fact, a presenter at a parallel event—the local government climate sessions, which brought together delegates from cities around the world. From transportation to industry, cities control the finalized form of environmental policies, and Edmonton, being no exception, needed to be represented.

Loath as I am to admit it, our city gets some things right environmentally—

especially recycling. We're even hosting the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives conference in 2009, which would have made our absence from this conference even more suspicious.

For those saying that someone more experienced should have gone, Iveson's main portfolio item is the environment. Imagine how this would have went down if he had refused to attend on the basis of emissions: Iveson proposes some manner of environmental measure the pundits don't like (such as his current proposal to curb

drive-throughs), and the CTF trots out the exact same "hypocrisy run amok" headline. After all, how dare the councillor propose a regulation to lower greenhouse gas emissions when he didn't even care enough to attend an important climate change conference? Either way, the right-wing smear campaign would have continued unabated.

As much as the CTF purports to be non-partisan, it isn't hard to tell what type of non-partisan politics they support. Lower business, income, and gas taxes don't exactly leave much room for social spending—even if governments

are as wasteful as the group claims. Admittedly, I don't pay a ton of tax as a student, but an engineering degree will quickly change that. What it won't change is the way I want my tax dollars spent, and the current Taxpayers Federation doesn't represent me.

This has nothing to do with emissions from Iveson's plane—the CTF thinks climate change is junk science and "alarmist propaganda" anyway. These critics don't care what he's being "hypocritical" about—just that he's being "hypocritical." And that's more than a little hypocritical itself.



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a clean getaway

how to spoil yourself at the spa and take it like a man



When us men picture spas, we think of mud baths, cucumber eye covers, bathrobes, and, above all, a place full of women taking a day off to relax using that birthday present gift certificate we bought them for lack of a better idea.

Aside from the odd metrosexual with a fashionable \$70 mullet-hawk, not many men have seen the inside of a spa. To remedy this (and their dry skin), resident *Gateway* dudes Conal Pierse, Mike Kendrick, and Mike Otto strolled awkwardly into the Spa Club on Whyte Ave last Friday morning.

While three nerdy newspaper editors by no means encompass what one could call the pinnacle of manliness, we're nonetheless a shining example of individuals who take little care of our personal

appearances and wash our faces only when shampoo runs down them. Our idea of relaxation involves a couch, television, and the freedom to scratch at will, so the idea of sitting still while somebody else poked and prodded us seemed quite alien.

However, in the interest of science, we decided to put our fears of lilac-scented candles aside and walked through the spa doors to be pampered for the first time since we graduated from diapers to big-boy underwear.

words and photos by
Mike Kendrick, Mike Otto,
and Conal Pierse

Conal was the first one to be called up, and was scheduled for rebalancing body work (a specialized full-body massage), the first of our three facials, and finally, a chest and leg waxing job.

Rebalancing body work—\$84*

This massage marks the earliest in the morning—and most hesitant I've ever been—when asked to remove my clothes. I'd only ever had one massage previous to this one, which amounted to a large Polish man tenderizing me like he would a rack of lamb—something I never wanted to experience again. However, seeing that there was only one exit from the room and the massage therapist was standing on the other side of it, I decided to be a good sport and modestly stripped down to my skivvies.

During the initial phase of the massage, I was under a blanket, which gave the strange impression that I was inside some kind of machine—a feeling that was further enhanced by her uncanny ability to move around me like a ninja without my sensing it.

I didn't have long to ponder this before my thoughts were liquefied by the start of the deep-tissue massage, which can only be accurately described with a very satisfied sigh. Though I consider myself a rather relaxed individual, I was carrying a surprisingly large amount of tension, and initially it felt as if she was trying to scrape cold butter onto toast, but after a few minutes, I loosened up and became a batch of slightly pink silly putty. In fact, while one of my legs was being massaged, I experienced an interesting contrast between a still tense and responsive leg with a useless sack of dough that had no interest in obeying my commands.

I'd have to say that though I am not and never will be a morning person, if this is how I got to start every day, there'd be no reason to hate Mondays.

RATING: 
(5 CUKES OUT OF 5)

Facial—\$100

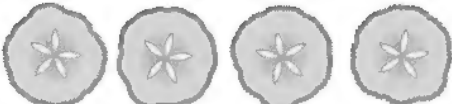
This treatment started out with a back massage—which brought me to the conclusion that absolutely everything in life should be offered with a side order of back massage—and after that only proceeded to get more relaxing.

When the esthetician first examined my skin under her incredibly bright portable sun, I was expecting it to

go similar to a dental check up and braced myself for the wave of criticisms about how I don't exfoliate and accusations that I don't wash my face three times a day. However, at no point did she make me feel guilty or uncomfortable, instead maintaining a safe and inviting atmosphere that made me feel as though having a couple blackheads was natural and not a big deal.

The entire process was so calming that I had to fight to stay awake, especially during the actual masking, which was not unlike having warm peanut butter spread on my face. These feelings were further enhanced by the hand massage I received after the mask was applied—a treatment that made me realize that if there's something unmanly about feeling that good, then I want no part of manhood.

Perhaps the greatest benefits of this treatment, however, were realized when I looked in a mirror and saw how good my skin looked. And though the exfoliation was not unlike rubbing your face in gravel, at the end of the day, my skin was so smooth that I couldn't help but pet it.

RATING: 


Waxing—\$55 Chest, \$45 Half leg

This seemed like an unfair end to what had started as such a good day—much like getting a shiny new bike for your birthday and then going head-first over the handlebars when you test-drive it. While the leg waxing was relatively painless, having your chest hair torn out hurts. Let me reiterate: it *really fucking hurts*—and I'm not even that hairy of a guy.

I was told that they get a number of men in for chest waxings, many of whom are dragged there by significant others, and I can tell you straight up that I will choose being single over continued exposure to borderline torture. What's worse is that I never realized how much insulation that hair added against the cold, which is making this cold snap particularly unbearable.

While I will wholeheartedly endorse the other treatments I received, if you're thinking of having your chest waxed, save yourself the effort of leaving your home and just slap your belly until it's pink and raw.

That said, she was quite thorough in her hair removal—not something I can say that I personally appreciated—so if you're looking to get this done, you won't have to worry about still having to shave afterwards. I'll also admit that though it wasn't relaxing at the time, I was considerably mellow afterwards due to the various endorphins pumping through my system.

RATING: 



*All prices are non-member prices

Men need to learn to
[themselves] a break
to come in, check
the door, and enjoy y



ike Otto stepped up for a glacial clay & seaweed mineral body firming wrap, his very own facial, and a manicure.

Seaweed Wrap - \$110

After a facial similar to Conal's, I was moved from one candlelit room to another. The esthetician handed me a small plastic bag with what looked like anapkin in it. It's disposable underwear, she pointed out, but thankfully I could keep my boxers on if I so chose. Being the curious guy that I am, I tried the paper drawers on anyway; afterwards, I was inclined to keep my boxers on. Further advancement is needed in the man-friendly paper-underwear industry.


Once I was suitably undressed and under a towel on the bed, the spa lady returned, and after a short back

massage I was covered in the seaweed spread. It was then that I fully appreciated the fact that I was on a plastic sheet of some sort. She wrapped me up in the plastic and blankets and I was left to bake on the warmed bed.

Remember that scene in *Home Alone* where Joe Pesci walks into the cling wrap covered in clear silicone? That's what being covered in seaweed spread and wrapped in plastic is like. It was an unpleasant feeling at first—at least until I was warm, which took ten out of the 20 minutes.

Unwrapping was extremely cold, which was mercifully followed by a hot shower. After that, a layer of lotion was applied, and I was done.

Though the 20 minutes of cooking was relaxing, the wrapping felt strange, and unwrapping was even worse. It was definitely a less enjoyable experience than the facial; I would give it a score of two out of five, if it weren't for the fact that my skin is astoundingly smooth. I'd recommend you skip this—just go for a massage instead.

RATING: 

Manicure - \$60

Like everything else at the spa, there was more to the manicure than I expected. The first half was the usual:

my nails were sanded and buffed, and my cuticles were oiled and, uh, pushed. After that, I was given a hand massage, which was alright, followed by paraffin wax and moisturizer. All in all, it lacked the relaxing effects of the other two procedures. Sure, my hands look nice, but they're just going to get dirty again.

I see no especially compelling reason to get a manicure, save perhaps for a very special occasion (one's wedding day?), but aside from that, this is one procedure you can leave to the ladies.

RATING: 



ike Kendrick sat down for a pedicure and facial, followed by a lavender soy body exfoliation, ending with a restorative hair treatment and a gentleman's haircut.

Pedicure - \$85

Much like its attractive cousin the manicure, pedicures involve some intimate attention given to your digits. While the obvious first step is removing your shoes, things get a lot more complex from there.

I started with a foot bath, treated with an assortment of moisturizing oils. My esthetician explained that this would prepare my feet for the procedure ahead, softening my toenails to the gentle touch of her file. After a few minutes, I stretched out on the spa table and wiggled away the remaining lint that was stuck between my toes.

My toenails had no need for trimming (normally, the next step in the process), so instead, out came the file. With short, deliberate strokes that I barely noticed, my jagged edges were smoothed down into gentle curves, akin to the dull edge of a kindergarten's safety scissors.

From nails to callouses, the esthetician used a tool reminiscent of a carpenter's sanding block to painlessly smooth down the thick and worn skin at the balls and heels of my feet. Following an exfoliating foot scrub, she applied an arcane draught to my toes that she explained was a cuticle softener. Then, with the surgical precision of an artisan fencer, she employed a series of tools to push back my cuticles and trim away the dead, excess skin. I was worried about experiencing some pain in this step, but honestly, I didn't feel a thing. I began to suspect that this woman had been dabbling in the dark arts to achieve such a magical touch, but before I could press the matter, the massage began.

Nobody told me that there would be a massage with the pedicure—and it was certainly a massage to remember. Lasting about 20 minutes, she used a moisturizing lotion to release stress and tension from my feet and legs and relaxed me to the point of giddiness for about 19 of those minutes. After

this came the paraffin wax treatment, which basically meant that my feet got dipped into plastic bags filled with molten wax until it set. While the concept may sound alarming to some, this was quite possibly the best part of the ordeal, sealing the pleasure of the past hour like a chocolate-dipped ice cream cone. The whole procedure took a huge stress load off my feet and fended off the aches of my pedestrian lifestyle for days to come.

RATING: 

Lavender Soy Body Exfoliation - \$75

Going in to this one, I honestly had no idea what to expect. The concept of exfoliation had only been fully explained to me hours before, and for a process which I likened to building a very wet sandcastle on my skin, I had difficulty comprehending how this would work over my entire body.

My massage therapist for this round explained to me briefly what would happen. From what I gathered, this would be a massage for my pores rather than my muscles. A freshly prepared massage table surrounded by aromatic candles in a room playing soothing ambient tunes awaited. Cracking a joke about all of the changing in and out of clothes we were doing this afternoon, she suggested I could do this one commando-style.

Considering that at the halfway mark I would be covered from shoulder to toe in an exfoliating cream (which she scientifically dubbed "the goop"), it would be an unpleasant ordeal getting my underwear down my legs in any sort of clean manner. This was probably the most enlightening part of the procedure: typically, the male presence in the spa is overshadowed by the image of a stereotypical bourgeois who's unable to separate business from pleasure. This is obviously less common than it seems—I

found myself surprisingly comfortable wearing nothing but a bed sheet in the presence of an attractive girl in what was anything but a sexually tense setting.

The procedure itself was relatively straightforward. After the exfoliant stage, I took a quick rinse in the shower and the lavender-soy massage oil was applied. The whole process left my skin feeling comfortably soft and refreshed—though it did seem a bit short. While it wasn't quite as drawn out and relaxing as a traditional full-body massage, overall, I was left with a positive impression.

RATING: 

Hair Restoration / Gentleman's Cut - \$35

There's not much that one can say about a haircut unless it's done by someone who knows what they're doing. Sporting a newly coiffed mohawk, I was curious how they would step up

to the challenge of having so little hair to work with—but in the end, I was pleasantly surprised.

As with most salons, I started at the washing basin, where my hair was treated to a conditioning product that it hasn't seen since my high school graduation. Since then, I've essentially destroyed my hair with spiking spray since in going for the punk-rocker look, but it was restored to its former glory in a matter of minutes.

From here, my stylist sent his magic clippers to work and cleaned up the mangled mess that was sprouting above my cranium. As his scissors danced across the lone strip of hair, I almost felt a tinge of regret that I didn't have more for him to work with. However, with a one-two punch from his straightener and a bottle of hair gel, he brought a refreshing look to even my most questionable of coiffures.

RATING: 

that [they] can give sometimes. You need your manhood at yourself."

—Rob
OWNER, THE SPA CLUB



Leaving the spa, we couldn't help but feel that we had been lied to our entire lives about what exactly spas were. Frankly, it's completely silly to think that, as a man, you somehow aren't allowed to enjoy simple pleasures for fear that you might end up smelling like something other than Old Spice. The only noticeable difference about us from our time spent there was that we were more relaxed and had considerably less stress.

You don't have to be an effeminate male or one whose medicine cabinet is stuffed full of exotic products and oils to take pleasure in the spa, just like you don't have to be a plaid-wearing lumberjack to appreciate a finely grilled steak.

As Rob, the owner of the spa, put it to us, "Men need to learn that [they] can give [themselves] a break sometimes. You need to come in, check your manhood at the door, and enjoy yourself."

Feel like you could use a day at the spa? Go to the features section on our website and tell us why you deserve to be pampered. The ten best responses will receive a \$15 gift certificate to The Spa Club on Whyte.